

in a force directed to another surface of the electronic device than the sensor surface is detected.

[0068] In a method according to an embodiment of the invention the electronic device is controlled to perform an action, e.g. to change the symbol from the selected-to-move state to the non-selected state, as a response to a situation in which acceleration of the electronic device is detected to exceed a pre-determined limit.

[0069] In a method according to an embodiment of the invention the electronic device is controlled to produce mechanical vibration as a response to a situation in which the force directed to the sensor surface exceeds a pre-determined limit.

[0070] A computer program according to an embodiment of the invention comprises computer executable instructions for making a processor unit to control an electronic device on the basis of:

[0071] a location indicator that is adapted to indicate a location of a spot of a sensor surface that is closest to an external object, and

[0072] a force indicator that is adapted to indicate strength of a force directed to the sensor surface.

[0073] The processor unit in which the computer program can be executed can be e.g. the processor unit **305** of the electronic device **300** shown in FIG. 3.

[0074] The computer program means can be, for example, sub-routines and/or functions.

[0075] A computer program according to an embodiment of the invention comprises computer executable instructions for making the processor unit to control the electronic device on the basis of the location indicator, the force indicator, and another force indicator that is arranged to indicate a temporal change of a force directed to another surface of the electronic device than the sensor surface.

[0076] A computer program according to an embodiment of the invention can be stored in a computer readable medium. The computer readable medium can be, for example, an optical compact disk or an electronic memory device like a RAM (random access memory) or a ROM (read only memory).

[0077] FIG. 5 shows an interface module **500** according to an embodiment of the invention. The interface module can be used as a building block of an electronic device that can be e.g. a mobile phone. The interface module comprises a sensor element **501** that has a sensor surface **502**. The sensor element is arranged to form a location indicator that is adapted to indicate a location of a spot of the sensor surface that is closest to an external object. The interface module comprises a force sensor equipment arranged to form a force indicator that is adapted to indicate strength of a force directed to the sensor surface. The force sensor equipment comprises one or more force sensors that are located in a layer **551** and are arranged to measure the strength of the force directed to the sensor surface. The force sensors can be arranged to measure a magnitude of a pressing force that is in the z-direction. The force sensors can be also capable of measuring a magnitude of a sheer force that is in the xy-plane. The force sensors can be also capable of measuring a direction of the sheer force in the xy-plane. The interface module comprises a processor unit **505** that is capable of controlling an electronic device connected to the interface module on the basis of the location indicator and the force indicator. The interface module comprises connector pads **550** via which electrical signals can be conducted to/from the interface module.

[0078] In an interface module according to an embodiment of the invention the force sensor equipment is arranged to form another force indicator arranged to indicate a temporal change of a force directed to another surface of the interface module than the sensor surface. The processor unit **505** is capable of controlling an electronic device connected to the interface module on the basis of the location indicator, the force indicator, and the other force indicator.

[0079] While there have been shown and described and pointed out fundamental novel features of the invention as applied to embodiments thereof, it will be understood that various omissions and substitutions and changes in the form and details of the devices and methods described may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention. For example, it is expressly intended that all combinations of those elements and/or method steps which perform substantially the same function in substantially the same way to achieve the same results are within the scope of the invention. Moreover, it should be recognized that structures and/or elements and/or method steps shown and/or described in connection with any disclosed form or embodiment of the invention may be incorporated in any other disclosed or described or suggested form or embodiment as a general matter of design choice. The specific examples provided in the description given above should not be construed as limiting. Therefore, the invention is not limited merely to the embodiments described above, many variants being possible without departing from the scope of the inventive idea.

What is claimed is:

1. A user interface comprising:

a sensor element having a sensor surface and being arranged to form a location indicator that is adapted to indicate a location of a spot of the sensor surface that is closest to an external object,

a force sensor equipment arranged to form a force indicator that is adapted to indicate strength of a force directed to the sensor surface, and

a processor unit capable of controlling an electronic device on the basis of said location indicator and said force indicator.

2. A user interface according to claim 1, wherein the sensor surface is a touch sensitive sensor surface arranged to form said location indicator as a response to a situation in which the external object is touching the sensor surface.

3. A user interface according to claim 1, wherein the sensor surface is a capacitive sensor surface arranged to form said location indicator as a response to a situation in which a distance between the sensor surface and the external object is less than a pre-determined limit value.

4. A user interface according to claim 1, wherein said force sensor equipment is arranged to form another force indicator that is adapted to indicate a temporal change of a force directed to another surface of the electronic device than the sensor surface and the processor unit is capable of controlling the electronic device on the basis of the other force indicator.

5. A user interface according to claim 1, wherein said force sensor equipment is arranged to detect a twisting effect caused by the force directed to the sensor surface and by a force directed to another surface of the electronic device than the sensor surface and the processor unit is capable of controlling the electronic device on the basis of the twisting effect.

6. A user interface according to claim 1, wherein user interface comprises a display screen.